

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

All claims and their status are listed below.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the setting the time period is based on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.

40. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the setting the time period is based on the study materials presented, and wherein the method waits for the user to enter the input via a keyboard or position-pointing device.

41. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 39, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

42. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 39, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computer, the method comprising:

presenting, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, study materials on the subject to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computer, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;

waiting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, to receive an input from the user ~~for the user to enter an input~~ via the computer to the first window, with the input being in response to the study materials; and

upon failure to receive an input from the user via the computer to the first window within a time period, and being aware of ~~when there is~~ one or more inputs by the user via the computer to the second window during the time period, adjusting the study materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting, which is in accordance with instructions of the computer program, comprises switching to alternative study materials that are different from study materials that would have been presented if an input was received from the user via the computer to the first window within the time period, and

wherein the method further comprises setting the time period in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

45. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises presenting a question that would not have been presented if an input was received from the user to the first window within the time period.

46. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 45, wherein the question is not on the subject of the study materials.

47. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 45, wherein the user's reply to the question is not used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

48-49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises increasing a stimulation level of the study materials to be presented.

51. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching includes presenting again at least a portion of the study materials already presented.

52-55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, wherein the setting the time period is based on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials, and wherein the input that the method is waiting for the user to enter is a physical input from the user to the computer.

57. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 56, wherein the setting the time period also depends on a reference response time of the user, and wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where study materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computer.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of the presentation of the materials.

60. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, further comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.

61. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 59, wherein the switching comprises presenting a question.

62. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 59, wherein the changing the pace of the presentation of the materials includes reducing the speed of presentation of the materials.
63. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 59, wherein the switching comprises presenting again at least a portion of the study materials already presented.
64. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, further comprising providing the user with options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive an input from the user to the first window within the time period.
65. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the question is displayed on the display and is orally presented.
66. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising praising the user if the answer to the question is correct.
67. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising presenting study materials related to the question to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.
68. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 45, further comprising presenting again at least a portion of the study materials already presented to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.
69. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the study materials presented have at least one difficulty level, and

wherein the method further comprises presenting study materials with a difficulty level lower than the at least one difficulty level to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

70. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein whether the answer to the question is correct or not does not affect study materials to be presented to the user.

71. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device, the method comprising:

presenting, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, study materials on the subject to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;

monitoring, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, for an input from the user via the computing device to the first window; and

with no input from the user to the first window, as indicated by the monitoring, within a time period, but with ~~when there is~~ one or more inputs from ~~by~~ the user via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, the study materials for presentation to the user on the subject,

wherein the adjusting the study materials comprises changing a pace of the presentation of the materials.

72. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71, wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.

73. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 72, wherein the adjusting the study materials comprises presenting a question.

74. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 73, wherein the adjusting the study materials comprises providing the user with options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process.
75. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 74 further comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.
76. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.
77. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where study materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computer.
78. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:
- presenting study materials on the subject to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;
 - waiting for the user to enter an input to the first window, with the input being in response to the study materials; and
 - upon failure to receive an input from the user, to the first window within a time period, and being aware of ~~when there is~~ one or more inputs by the user to the second window during the time period, adjusting the study materials for presentation on the subject to help the user learn the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative study materials that are different from study materials that would have been presented if an input was received from the user to the first window within the time period, and

wherein the method further comprises setting the time period.

79. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method to assist a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device comprising:

providing study materials on the subject to be presented, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive an input from the user to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for the user to enter an input via the computing device to the first window, ~~with the input being in response to the study materials, and being aware of when there is~~ one or more inputs by the user via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, ~~the study materials for presentation on the subject~~ to help the user learn the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question ~~related to the study materials~~ to be presented, and

wherein the method further comprises setting the time period in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

80. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user is provided with options to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive an input from the user to the first window within the time period.

81-110. (Canceled)

111. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79,

wherein the study materials have at least one level of difficulty, and
wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.

112. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on the study materials to be presented.

113. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on the user.

114. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79,
wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and
wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where study materials on a subject were presented to the user.

115. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is on the subject.

116. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is not on the subject.

117. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user's answer to the question is not used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

118. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user's answer to the question is used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

119. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is orally presented.

120. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the adjusting further comprises adjusting an audio effect.

121. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the adjusting further comprises adjusting a visual effect.

122. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the at least one computer processor is in the computing device.

123. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the at least one computer processor is coupled to the computing device via a network.

124. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 123, wherein the network includes the Internet.

125. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, further comprising providing study materials related to the question to be presented, if the answer to the question is not correct.

126. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79,
wherein the study materials provided have at least one difficulty level, and
wherein the method further comprises providing study materials with a difficulty level lower than the at least one difficulty level, to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

127. (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein whether the answer to the question is correct or not does not affect the study materials to be presented to the user.

128. (New) A computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:

providing study materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive an input from the user to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for the user to enter an input via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more inputs by the user via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting-materials for presentation to help the user learn the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question to be presented, and

wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set.